

TO: CLIMATE ACTION TEAM
FROM: HEATHER CHASE
DATE: JANUARY 31, 2006
RE: PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION TEAM REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR
AND LEGISLATURE

As a concerned citizen, a student of Environmental Management, and an employee for a national environmental organization, I am greatly invested in the future of our state, our nation, and the planet as a whole. The task that has been asked of the Climate Action Team is tremendous and I found the response to be impressive and thorough in exploring options to address global climate change. Below I outline some of my comments and suggestions:

1. Looking specifically at the four recommendations requiring action by the Governor and Legislature, the mandatory reporting requirement is critical. However, more information on how the mandate will be implemented and enforced is needed.
2. In addition, the public goods charge is an important step. It is also critical that additional efforts targeting a decreased reliance on petroleum are implemented. The report should address potential options for greater investment in improving public transportation opportunities and infrastructure.
3. At times, the report read like a wish list and did not provide science-based justification for prioritization of strategies or a thorough understanding of the costs and specific implementation plans necessary for realization of goals.
4. An improved report should narrow its focus to include thorough strategic plans for the implementation of the number one priority for each agency with detailed justification. Each agencies options should be prioritized through thorough analyses, including a cost-benefit approach, resulting in only the most effective and equitable.
5. The report could benefit from a section detailing the monitoring and evaluation protocols that will be used to measure results and to guide adaptive management of those strategies implemented.

Note: The comments provided above are my own as a private citizen and are by no means meant to represent my employer or educational institution.